

§93.914

cell lines to detect VHS virus, if present. All suspect VHS cytopathic effects must be positively identified as VHS through molecular assays and/or genetic sequencing.

(3) Proportional numbers of each VHS-regulated fish species which might be present in a shipment must be used for testing, if applicable.

(4) Testing must be conducted at water temperatures between 50 and 72 °F, or at other times or under environmental conditions when VHS virus is most likely to be detected, if present.

(c) When APHIS adds a new species to the list of VHS-regulated species after a facility has been determined to be free of VHS in accordance with paragraph (b) of this section, the facility must conduct additional testing on fish of the newly listed species, if present in the facility, and the fish must be free of VHS virus for the facility to retain its free status. VHS testing must be conducted on each newly listed species with a sample size that provides for a 95 percent confidence level of detecting a 2 percent prevalence of infection in the fish facility.

(d) *Shipping containers.* Except as provided in §93.910(e)–(g), all live fish that are to be shipped to the United States must be shipped in new containers or in containers that have been cleaned and disinfected.

(1) Cleaning and disinfection of shipping containers must be monitored by the veterinarian or certifying official who issues the health certificate.

(2) Cleaning and disinfection must be sufficient to neutralize any VHS virus to which shipping containers may have been exposed.

(3) The cleaning and disinfection protocols used must be referenced in the health certificate or in a separate cleaning and disinfection certificate accompanying the shipment to the U.S. port of entry.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0579–0340)

§93.914 Declaration and other documents.

(a) For live VHS-regulated fish offered for importation under this subpart, the importer or his or her agent must submit the following documents to the appropriate Customs and Border

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Protection officer for use by the port veterinarians:

(1) All permits, certificates, or other documentation required under §§93.912 and 93.913; and

(2) Two copies of a declaration that lists the port of entry; the name and address of the importer; the name and address of the broker; the origin of the live fish; the number, species, and the purpose of the importation; the name of the person to whom the fish will be delivered; and the location of the place to which such delivery will be made.

(b) [Reserved]

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§93.915 Inspection at the port of entry.

(a) Shipments of live VHS-regulated fish must be presented for inspection at a port of entry designated under §93.911. For live fish entering through a limited port listed in §93.911(c), the APHIS port veterinarian must be notified at least 72 hours in advance of the arrival in the United States of the shipment. Any shipment that does not meet the requirements of this subpart will be refused entry.

(b) Shipments refused entry must be exported within a time fixed in each case by the Administrator, and in accordance with other provisions he or she may require in each case for their handling, or the shipment will be disposed of as the Administrator may direct.

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§93.916 Special provisions.

(a) *Slaughter.* Live VHS-regulated fish from VHS-regulated regions may be imported directly for slaughter under the following conditions:

(1) An import permit has been obtained under §93.912 and all conditions of the permit are observed.

(2) An APHIS representative at the port seals the means of conveyance with official seals.

(3) The shipment is moved directly from the port of entry to a slaughtering establishment that meets the following conditions: